

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner Manoharan for the courtesy of granting a telephonic interview to the Applicant's representatives Daniel Altman and Marina Gordey. The following amendments to claims are the result of the interview. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claim in a related application. Claims 13 and 22 were amended to be in independent form. Pending Claims 2-5, 9-12, and claim 24-26 have been amended to depend on Claim 13. Claims 4 and 9 have been canceled as redundant. New Claim 27 has been added. Support for the new claim can be found in Claims 1 and 24 as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. In view of cancellation of 3 claims and addition of one new claim, the total number of claims under examination has not been increased. The following addresses the substance of the Office Action.

Non-obviousness

During the interview the Examiner indicated that Claim 13 and all claims dependent and/or readable thereon would be allowable over the art of record, and in the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 22 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claims accordingly as described above, with the exception that the minor limitation from Claim 11 was not included in Claim 13. Therefore, currently amended Claims 2-10, 12-23 should be now allowable.

Rejoinder

Claims 24-26 have been made dependent on the amended Claim 13. In the Advisory action, mailed December 4, 2006, the Examiner indicated that previously withdrawn Claims 24-26 have been rejoined under the rules of M.P.E.P. §821.04 and fully examined for patentability. New Claim 27 recites the limitations of the rejoined Claim 24 and is dependent on the amended allowable Claim 22. Therefore, Claim 27 should also be allowable.

Compliance with 35 USC §112, second paragraph

In the Advisory action of December 4, 2006, the Examiner indicated that the scope of the claimed invention has changed because Claims 3, 5-8, 10-12, originally dependent on Claim 1, now depend on claims 1 and 13 combined. As discussed above, the Examiner indicated during the interview that Claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, and that all

claims dependent on the amended Claim 13 would also be allowable. Applicant amended claims 2, 3, 5-8, and 10-26 accordingly. Therefore, change in the scope of the amended claims does not raise issues under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have endeavored to address all of the Examiner's concerns as expressed in the outstanding Office Action, the Interview Summary, and the two Advisory Actions. Accordingly, amendments to the claims, the reasons therefor, and arguments in support of the patentability of the pending claim set are presented above. In light of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is specifically requested. If the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned.

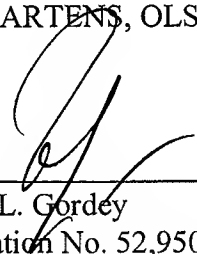
Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 12, 2005

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